

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

MUNICIPAL OFFICES MORRIS COUNTY LONG VALLEY, NJ 07853 43 Schooley's Mtn. Rd. 908-876-3315 Fax 908-876-5138

November 21, 2008



Ms. Eileen Swan, Executive Director New Jersey Highlands Council 100 North Road Chester, New Jersey 07930

Re: Notice of Intent to Petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance Washington Township

Dear Ms. Swan:

At a meeting held on November 17, 2008, the Washington Township Committee adopted Resolution #R-165-08, "Notice of Intend to Petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance." A certified copy is attached for your records.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Dianne S. Gallets

Township Administrator/Clerk

DSG/jlm

cc: Paula J. DeBona, Esquire Jansen & DeBona, LLC

Attachment

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## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTO

Morris County, New Jersey

No. R-165-08

Date of Adoption: November 17, 2008

Title or Subject: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PETITION THE HIGHLANDS COUNCIL FOR PLAN CONFORMANCE

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 *et seq.*, finds and declares that protection of the New Jersey Highlands is an issue of State level importance because of its vital link to the future of the State's drinking water supplies and other key natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act creates a coordinated land use planning system requiring the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region and requiring that within nine to fifteen months after September 8, 2008, each county and municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area must submit a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council for that portion of its jurisdiction lying within the Preservation Area; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act specifies that conformance with the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance) requires revisions to municipal and county master plans and development regulations as applicable to the development and use of land to align them with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines require that for jurisdictions with any lands in the Preservation Area, a Notice of Intent to conform to the Regional Master Plan must be submitted to the Highlands Council as soon as practicable, but not later than February 1, 2009 and that for any lands in the Planning Area, a Notice of Intent may be submitted at any time; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington (Morris County) lies within the Highlands Region as defined by the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Washington believes that it is in the best interest of the Township to conform to the Regional Master Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, hereby provides the Highlands Council with this Notice of Intent to petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance for all lands lying within the Preservation Area.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington intends to include all lands lying with the Planning Area in the petition. In accordance with the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines, this Notice of Intent is not binding with respect to lands within the Planning Area.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this Notice of Intent provides notice to the Highlands Council that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington has set December 8, 2009 as the target date for submission of a Petition for Plan Conformance.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Dianne S. Gallets, Township Clerk

Tracy Tobin, Mayor

I, Dianne S. Gallets, Township Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Township Committee, held on November 17, 2008.

Dianne S. Gallets, Township Clerk

Date 21, 2008